

REMARKS

Applicant's counsel thanks the Examiner for the careful consideration given the application and for the courteous telephone interview conducted on June 28, 2011 between applicant's undersigned counsel, Examiner Pagan and SPE Yu. Prior to the interview, applicant's counsel had submitted to the USPTO cardboard models of the devices of Wilson (US 4032053) and Dutcher (US 4498581); Examiners Pagan and Yu had these cardboard models in their possession and examined them during the course of the telephone interview. Applicant's counsel also submitted a proposed amended main claim to the Examiners prior to the interview. That proposed claim is now presented as amended claim 1 herein. The substance of the telephone interview is summarized as follows.

Applicant's counsel pointed out that a key limitation of amended claim 1 is: "wherein on, and/or on both sides of, at least one part of each of said second and third fold lines at least two layers of sheet material are provided". In applicant's Fig. 10, the second and third fold lines are shown as 6 and 8, respectively, at the sides of the top surface of the package. Generally speaking, an important feature of the invention is to provide two layers of sheet material on these fold lines, and/or on both sides of these fold lines. For example, in applicant's Fig. 9, where the left side meets the top surface, a fold line is provided which has two layers of sheet material on the fold line and also has two layers of sheet material on both sides of the fold line (ie, to the right of the fold line on the top surface, and to the left of the fold line on the downsloping side surface 28). Similarly, in Fig. 9, on the right hand side of the top surface, there are two layers of sheet material on the fold line and also on both sides of the fold line (ie, on the top surface to the left of the fold line and on the downsloping side surface to the right of the fold line). Fig. 10 also shows two layers of sheet material on the fold line at 6 and on the fold line at 8; Fig. 10 also shows three layers of sheet material on the upper or top side of each fold, and two layers of sheet material on the downsloping side of each fold.

After the foregoing discussion, applicant's counsel then pointed to Wilson (US 4032053) and Dutcher (US 4498581). As can be seen in Fig. 3 of Wilson, it has an upper surface 32/108 and fold lines to the left and to the right. On the left hand fold line (where 16 meets 32/108), there is just a single layer of sheet material. On the right hand fold line, on the top (108), there is a single layer of sheet material; on the downsloping side there is a double layer. With this in mind, it can be clearly seen that Wilson does not teach at least two layers of sheet material on,

or on both sides of, each of the fold lines running adjacent the top surface (32/108). Dutcher is similar. It can be seen that, when the package of Dutcher is folded up, it does have two fold lines (42, 20) defining the top surface 40. But one of these fold lines (42) is just a single layer between top panel 40 and side panel 32. The other fold line (20) is where side panel 10 connects with top panel 40 (with panel 18 underneath panel 40). At this fold line (20), there is a double layer (40, 18) on the top side of the fold line, but only a single layer (10) on the downward side of the fold line. In summary, Dutcher clearly does not teach a double layer of sheet material on each of the two fold lines and/or on both sides of each of the two fold lines.

After this discussion, the Examiners stated that claim 1 as now amended overcomes the applied references. The Examiners stated that, since claim 1 now defines over the applied references, they would give the application further search and consideration.

In view of the foregoing, it is clear that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. All the other claims depend from, or otherwise include all the limitations of, claim 1 and are accordingly also in condition for allowance.

Since the claims are now in condition for allowance, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If, in their further search, the Examiners determine that changes to the claims are appropriate, they are requested to telephone applicant's undersigned counsel so that prosecution can be advanced. If any further fees are required by this communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. VOB-38839.

Respectfully submitted,
PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By 
John P. Murtaugh, Reg. No. 34226

1801 East 9th Street, Suite 1200
Cleveland, OH 44114-3108
Phone: 216-579-1700

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